

Frye Lights

A Neighborhood Newsletter From Councilmember Donna Frye



March 2003

Volume 1, Issue 2



*Proudly Serving
the District Six
Communities of:*

Bay Ho

Bay Park

Birdland

Clairemont

De Anza

Kearny Mesa

Linda Vista

Mission Valley

Mission Village

Morena

Serra Mesa

Stonecrest

A Message From the Desk of Councilmember Donna Frye

Public participation is the key to good government. You have a right to know what is happening in your neighborhood.

In order to meet the challenges facing our community, I will: Provide all available information to the public prior to final decisions being made; Follow both the letter and the spirit of our open meeting laws; Be accessible and available to all members of the community; Listen to and show respect for all persons bringing issues before the City Council; and Never forget that I work for you!

Please don't hesitate to contact my office if you have comments or concerns regarding any issues or if you have any ideas as to how I can better serve you!

Play Time... New Play Equipment Arrives in District Six

After overseeing many tot lot projects in District Six, Councilmember Frye had the opportunity to open two tot lots in District Six with one more under construction. North Clairemont Community Park, Lindbergh Neighborhood Park and Mission Heights Neighborhood Park are all being renovated.

On February 6, 2003 Councilmember Frye invited local school children to help celebrate the re-opening of the children's play area at the North Clairemont Community Park. A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held to mark the official opening of the newly remodeled tot lot.

To ensure that the tot lot project would not be delayed, Frye allocated \$50,000 of



Councilmember Frye invited children from Field Elementary School to help cut the ribbon on the renovated North Clairemont Tot Lot along with Clairemont Community Leader Dot Jensen and Park and Recreation Department Deputy Director, Ted Medina

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Play Time... continued



Children enjoying the new play structure at North Clairemont Park Tot Lot

District Six Infrastructure funds to cover last minute shortfalls. Funding for this project also included money from State Park Bond funds approved by voters in 2000.

This is one of the first projects funded with the 2000 State Park Bond to be completed.

Lindbergh Neighborhood Park Tot Lot on Ashford Street in Clairemont is scheduled to be re-opened this March. It has been under construction since January 2003. New play structures are being installed to supplement existing pieces of play equipment. Additionally, the rest rooms at Lindbergh park will be upgraded to meet ADA compliance.

Last year Councilmember Frye allocated funds to repair burned down play equipment at Mission Heights Neighborhood Park located in Linda Vista. In January of 2003 the installation of the new play equipment was completed.

Another tot lot project to look for will be in Serra Mesa Community Park. This project includes the replacement and upgrade of both tot lots at the park.



Councilmember Donna Frye allocated \$30,000 of Community Development Block Grant funds for the replacement of the arson burned play equipment at Mission Heights Park in Linda Vista



Mission Bay Landfill Technical Advisory Committee

The closed Mission Bay landfill was a receptacle for toxic materials for many years. The community has long expressed concern the landfill may be leaking since the landfill is not contained or lined.



Councilmember Frye and Councilmember Zucchet co-chair the Mission Bay Landfill Technical Advisory Committee

In August of 2002, Councilmember Frye and the Environmental Services Department began a new investigation into the current conditions at the landfill. The goal of the investigation is to determine the environmental and public health issues surrounding the site.

In order to help evaluate and advise the City during this investigation, Councilmember Frye convened the Mission Bay Technical Advisory Committee. This oversight committee is made up of technical experts and community members interested in completing a site assessment and determining appropriate clean up measures for the landfill.

In December 2003, newly elected Councilmember Michael Zucchet joined Councilmember Frye in chairing the Committee. The Committee is currently working with the City to recommend a consultant to complete the site investigation.

These meetings are open to the public, and there is a public comment period at the end of each meeting. The next meeting of the Mission Bay Technical Advisory Committee will be on Friday, March 21, 2003 at 10:00 am. This meeting will be held on the 12th floor, Conference Room B in the City Administration Building, 202 C Street, 92101.



Silver Terrace Park

Mayor Murphy and Park and Recreation Director Ellen Oppenheim joined Councilmember Donna Frye in the Groundbreaking Ceremony for Silver Terrace Park in Linda Vista on February 15, 2003.



Councilmember Frye shows her appreciation to the community for their work on the design of this park

Silver Terrace Park, located on Friars Road near Napa Street, will serve the communities of Mission Valley and Linda Vista. The new park will have a children's play area and areas for picnics.

The Ceremony was well attended with many residents from Linda Vista and Mission Valley. The Silver Terrace Sub-committee of the Linda Vista Community Planners Committee was instrumental in the design of this park.

Construction on this park began soon after the ceremony and is expected to be open in the Fall. While construction should only take until July there is an establishment period for the turf.



Councilmember Frye, Mayor Murphy, Park and Recreation Director Ellen Oppenheim and Linda Vista community leaders Wayne Bamford, Doug Beckham and Ed Cramer turn the first soil at the Silver Terrace Park Groundbreaking Ceremony

Community Leader Highlight *- Mary Johnson -*



Serra Mesa resident Mary Johnson was appointed to the Tree Advisory Board to represent District Six at the City Council meeting on February 3, 2003. The Tree Advisory Board duties include advocating and formulating proactive urban forestry policies, ordinances and guidelines.

Mary is a community activist who serves on many committees including Trees for Serra Mesa and Friends of Ruffin Canyon. She has worked in education for 35 years retiring in 2000.

She will serve the City of San Diego and all of the communities in District Six well on the Tree Advisory Board.

Balboa Library Check Presentation

On January 29, 2003 at the regular meeting of the Friends of Balboa Branch Library, Councilmember Frye presented a check for \$150,000 for the design of a future expanded Balboa Library.

At this meeting members discussed what needs the community has and how an expanded library would help meet those needs.



Councilmember Frye presents check for the expanded library to the Friends of the Balboa Branch Library and Balboa Branch Librarians

Frye also gave an overview of the plans and answered questions from the community.



Morena Boulevard Beautification

Councilmember Frye has worked to make Morena Boulevard a safe, attractive entry-way to the communities of Linda Vista and Clairemont. This has included providing funding for and coordinating the landscaping of the medians on the south end of Morena Boulevard, installing two traffic lights at Ashton Street and Gesner Street and re-striping traffic lanes to discourage street racing at the north end of Morena Boulevard.



Councilmember Frye plants trees with Urban Corps on Morena Boulevard

Now Frye has teamed with the Urban Corps and People for Trees to plant 100 trees along the west



Frye and Sam Duran from Urban Corps plant the final Jacaranda tree

side of Morena Boulevard. This aggressive tree planting schedule was completed in the last week of February. The recently planted trees are 15 gallon Jacaranda trees.

Restoring the Mission Valley Preserve



On Saturday, March 22, 2003 Councilmember Frye will join The San Diego River Park Foundation and the Friends of the Mission

Valley Preserve for a volunteer planting event at the Mission Valley Preserve.

Volunteers are needed to help restore the habitat along the San Diego River. Meet at the kiosk on Friars Road at Napa Street. Tools will be provided. For more information contact Rob Hutsel at the San Diego River Park Foundation at (619) 297-7380.

The Trolley - Rolling Billboards...

On February 6, 2003 Councilmember Frye stopped the "wrapping" of trolleys with advertisements. In the Board of Directors meeting of the San Diego Trolley she spoke out against the practice calling it "creeping incrementalism."

The Board had temporarily approved the wrapping of trolleys for the Super Bowl. At that time the board promised that it would only be for four months around the time of the Super Bowl. A couple of months later Trolley staff came back to the Board to ask that the practice be continued indefinitely. Councilmember Frye urged the other members not to go back on their word.

The Board ultimately voted unanimously to end the practice.



Councilmember Frye stopped the practice of "wrapping" trolleys with advertisements

Go to the Library

- **Balboa Library: Pre-school Story Hour** Every Monday, the Balboa Branch library hosts pre-school story hour at 6:30 in the evening. For more information contact the library at (858) 573-1390.
- **Mission Valley Library: Family Fun Time** On Tuesday, March 11, 2003 at 7:00 pm the Mission Valley Library will have Stories and Crafts time where they will make shamrock wands. For more information contact the library at (858) 573-5007.
- **Mission Valley Library: Family Fun Time** Thursday, March 27, 2003 the library will host "Mountain Mushers: Dog Sled Team" See and



experience a real live sled dog, sledding equipment and much more. Every one will have a chance to hug and pet the sled dog.

- **Mission Valley Library: Law Day 2003** On Saturday, March 15, 2003 from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm. Free legal advise during this one-day annual event. Attorneys will offer private one-on-one consultations. For more information contact the library at (858) 573-5007.
- **Linda Vista Library: Children's Story Time** On Tuesdays at 10 am and Wednesdays at 3 pm the Linda Vista Branch Library has a Children's Story Time. For Spanish speakers every other Saturday at 11:30 is a special story time en Español. For more information contact the library at (858) 573-1399.
- **Linda Vista Library: Movie Day** Every other Saturday is Movie day at the Linda Vista Branch Library. Contact the library at (858) 573-1399 for specific dates.
- **North Clairemont Library: Stamp it Up** A free rubber stamp workshop is being held on Saturday, March 8, 2003 from 10:00-11:00 am. Learn how to make cards, gift tags and more using stamps. For more information contact the library at (858) 581-9931.
- **North Clairemont Library: Pajama-rama Story Time** Miss Ann holds Pajama-rama Story Time every Monday evening at 6:45 pm. For more information contact the library at (858) 581-9931.
- **Clairemont Library: Pre-School Story Time** The Clairemont Branch Library hosts a pre-school story time Tuesday at 10:30 am. For more information contact the library at (858) 581-9935.
- **Clairemont Library: Story Time** The Clairemont Branch Library hosts story time on Mondays at 6:45 pm. For more information contact the library at (858) 581-9935.



Mission Valley Tank Farm

The issue of leaks from the Mission Valley Tank Farm seeping under Qualcomm Stadium and polluting groundwater has recently come to the attention of many people. The following will explain the history and give you the current status.

The Mission Valley Tank Farm was established in 1963 as a major storage facility for petroleum to be distributed throughout San Diego County. Petroleum products are brought to the Terminal through a pipeline that receives the petroleum from the Los Angeles area. The petroleum products stored at the Terminal, historically or presently, include leaded and unleaded gasoline, gasoline additives, jet fuel, diesel, and ethanol. With a storage capacity of 25 million gallons, the Terminal property is owned by a corporate entity named Kinder Morgan Energy Partners. Kinder Morgan owns and operates tanks at the facility and also leases property to ExxonMobil and Shell Oil companies, which own and operate their own tanks at the terminal. Powertine Oil Company owns tanks at the terminal, but these tanks were taken out of service when Powertine went bankrupt.

In 1991, the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (the Regional Board), the local agency in charge of enforcing water quality laws, learned of leaks and contamination underneath the Terminal's storage tanks. The contamination included gasoline chemicals like benzene, toluene, xylene, and lead. The area of contamination included Qualcomm Stadium, the Stadium parking lot, and the nearby San Diego River. The Regional Board issued a Cleanup and Abatement Order in January 1992. In 1996, MTBE was also detected in the groundwater monitoring. MTBE is the chemical that was added to gasoline in order to help clean the air. This discovery caused grave concern because MTBE is a suspected carcinogen, imparts a bad taste and odor to water, and doesn't break-down in the environment as easily as other gasoline components.

The cleanup for any of these chemicals did not begin until February 1994. The cleanup entailed pumping and treating the water and then discharging the treated water into Murphy Canyon Creek, which is a tributary to the San Diego River. Approximately 200,000 gallons per day of treated



Mission Valley Tank Farm Continued

water is discharged from the Terminal.

In 2002, it was discovered that Kinder Morgan was discharging water from their cleanup efforts that did not meet the Regional Board's water quality requirements into Murphy Canyon Creek.

The problem with the discharge water is that it may cause growth and reproduction problems for organisms that live in the creek. On December 11, 2002, the Regional Board assessed a \$21,000 fine to Kinder Morgan for violating their discharge permit. Kinder Morgan is now in the process of identifying the cause of the toxicity and developing a plan to further treat the water or prevent this toxic water from entering Murphy Canyon Creek (and ultimately the San Diego River) in the future.

The Regional Board is keeping a careful eye on the monitoring and cleanup activities of Kinder Morgan. It is the Regional Board's mission and responsibility to preserve and enhance the quality of our water resources. They are pursuing the cleanup and containment of the plumes and paying close attention to the levels of MTBE in the surface water and groundwater of the San Diego River.

While MTBE remains a chemical of concern for the surface water of the San Diego River, the current monitoring reports show that the surface water levels are very low. The levels of MTBE in the groundwater, however, are problematic and that is the current focus of the cleanup and monitoring efforts. Kinder Morgan and the Regional Board believe there will be a significant reduction in the concentration of MTBE in the groundwater by the year 2015, so that it could be accessed for drinking water as planned by the County Water Authority.

Councilmember Frye, along with the City's Environmental Services Department, is working together with the Regional Board and Kinder Morgan to follow the progress of this issue.

It is our goal to ensure the San Diego River meets all of its beneficial uses and that our groundwater is protected and preserved so that it may one day be used as a source of drinking water.

Canyon Watchers

You can help protect our canyons by getting involved with the Canyon Watchers Program. Sewer spills in the canyons can go undetected for long periods of time before they are reported. If you hike in the canyons we ask that you report any incidences such as a damaged or vandalized manholes or sewage or a foamy discharge spilling from a manhole.

If you detect a spill call the Sewer Spill Hotline at (619) 515-3525. For more information about the Canyon Watchers Program, contact the Metropolitan Wastewater Department Public Information Line by phone at (858) 292-6484 or by email at mwwd@sandiego.gov.



Westfield Shoppingtown Mission Valley Receives Waste Reduction Award



On January 23, 2003 Councilmember Frye attended a ceremony to honor Westfield Shoppingtown Mission Valley for receiving the California

Integrated Waste Management Board's Waste Reduction Awards Program "WRAP of the Year" award.

The "WRAP of the year" award honors 10 businesses annually from a variety of industries for their waste-cutting achievements through the development and initiation of policies of waste reduction in the workplace.

Their commitment to recycling, resource conservation and innovative waste reduction efforts has resulted in an estimated 1.3 million pounds of cardboard, paper and plastics being diverted from our landfills.



Important Phone Numbers

Abandoned Vehicles	858 495-7856
Animal Regulation	236-4250
Beach & Bay Advisory	338-2073
Bicycle License	533-4300
Birth and Death Records	237-0502
Brush Abatement	236-5500
Building Permits	446-5000
Buses/MTS Access	233-3004
Canyon Watchers Program	858 292-6484
City Council Docket Info	533-4000
Community Service Center	858 581-4111
Code Violations	236-5500
Curb Maintenance	527-7500
Dead Animal Removal	858 694-7000
Dog Licenses	767-2675
Fire Stations	533-4300
Graffiti	525-8522
Hazardous Materials Hotline	235-2111
Housing Commission	231-9400
Humane Society	299-7012
Libraries	
Balboa	858 573-1390
Clairemont	858 581-9935
Linda Vista	858 573-1399
North Clairemont	858 581-9931
Serra Mesa	858 573-1396
Litter Control	858 492-5010
Noise Regulation	236-5500
Office of Small Business	685-1390
Park and Recreation	525-8219
Parking Citations	236-7145
Police: Non-Emergency	531-2000
Pot Hole Hotline	527-7500
Rec Centers	
Kearny Mesa	858 573-1387
Linda Vista	858 573-1392
North Clairemont	858 581-9926
Serra Mesa	858 573-1408
South Clairemont	858 581-9924
Tecolote	858 581-9930
Recycling Hotline	533-5353
Senior Citizens Services	236-6905
Serra Mesa Community Connection	858 565-2473
Sewer Repair/Spills	515-3525
Sidewalk Maintenance	527-7500
Stormwater Pollution Hotline	235-1000
Street Lights	527-7500
Street Sweeping	527-7500
Traffic Control	533-3126
Tree Maintenance	527-5465
Water Emergency	515-3525
Water Utilities	515-3500
Zoning Regulation Info	236-5500

District Six Community Meetings

Clairemont Town Council
Place: Clairemont High School Cafeteria,
4150 Ute Drive
When: 1st Thursday/ Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Clairemont Mesa Planning Committee
Place: Clairemont Friendship Senior Center,
4425 Bannock Ave.
When: 3rd Tuesday/ Month
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Kearny Mesa Planning Group
Place: National University,
9388 Light Wave # 114
When: 3rd Wednesday/ Month
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Linda Vista Civic Association
Place: Linda Vista Recreation Center
7064 Levant Street
When: 3rd Thursday/ Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Linda Vista Planning Group
Place: Linda Vista Library,
2160 Ulric Street
When: 4th Monday/ Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Mission Bay Park Committee
Place: Rotating Venue
When: 1st Tuesday/Month
Time: 6:00 p.m.

Mission Valley Community Council
Place: Mission Valley Library,
2123 Fenton Parkway
When: 3rd Thursday/ Odd Months
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Mission Valley Unified Planning Committee
Place: Mission Valley Library,
2123 Fenton Parkway
When: 1st Wednesday/ Month
Time: 12:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Community Council
Place: ARC, 9575 Aero Drive
When: 4th Wednesday/ Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Serra Mesa Planning Group
Place: Taft Junior High School,
9191 Gramercy Dr.
When: 3rd Thursday/ Month
Time: 7:00 p.m.



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